

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 66 and 67.

Kindly amend the following claims as indicated:

Sub C
47. (Amended) An apparatus for preparing and transmitting electronic program information toward a plurality of receiving terminals, comprising:

electronic program information preparing means for preparing both first and second types of electronic program information representative of the same broadcast program; wherein said first type of electronic program information has a first amount of detail, and is adapted to be carried along with a flow of data broadcast by a channel service, and wherein said second type of electronic program information has a second amount of detail different, in description of program information representative of the same broadcast program, from said first type of program information, and is adapted to be carried along with other flows of broadcast data that are different from said flow of broadcast data of the channel service;

electronic program information distributing means for distributing said prepared first and second types of electronic program information into both of the flow of data broadcast by said channel service and said other flows of broadcast data, respectively; and

means for transmitting both of the flow of data broadcast by the channel service, that contains said first type of electronic program information, and the other flows of broadcast data, that contain said second type of electronic program information, toward the receiving terminals.

48. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claims 47, wherein the electronic program information preparing means includes means for changing the first and second amounts of detail on the basis of detail setting information that indicates the amount of detail to be contained in said first and second types of electric program information, respectively.

49. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 47, wherein the first program information has a greater amount of detail describing said broadcast program than the amount of detail in said second type of program information.

50. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 49, wherein the electronic program information preparing means includes means for changing the first and second amounts of detail on the basis of detail setting information that indicates the amount of details to be contained in the first and second types of electric program information, respectively.

51. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 47, wherein said electronic program information preparing means is configured to increase the first and second amounts of detail corresponding to the addition of a detailed program description to the first and second types of electronic program information.

52. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing the first and second amounts of detail on the basis of detail setting information that indicates the amount of detail to be contained in the first and second types of electric program information.

53. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 47, wherein the electronic program information preparing means is configured to increase each of the first and second amounts of detail as enabled by increasing an amount of broadcast time during which each of the first and second types of electronic program information is described.

54. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 53, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing the amount of detail in said first and second types of

electronic program information on the basis of detail setting information that indicates an amount of detail for the first and second types of electronic program information, respectively.

55. (Amended) A method of preparing and transmitting electronic program information toward a plurality of receiving terminals, comprising the steps of:

preparing both of a first type of electronic program information, having a first amount of detail, that is adapted to be carried along with a flow of data broadcast by a channel service, and a second type of electronic program information having a second amount of detail, different in description from said first type of program information, and that is adapted to be carried along with other flows of broadcast data different from the flow of data broadcast by the channel service, wherein the first and second types of electronic program information are so arranged as to be indicative of the same broadcast program;

distributing the prepared first and second types of electronic program information into the flow of data broadcast by the channel service and the other flows of broadcast data, respectively; and

transmitting both of the flow of data broadcast by the channel service and the other flows of broadcast data toward the plurality of receiving terminals.

56. (Amended) The method according to claim 55, wherein the amount of detail in the first type of program information is greater in the description than the amount of detail in the second type of program information.

57. (Amended) The method according to claim 55, wherein the preparing step is configured to increase each of the first and second amounts of detail by adding a detailed program description to each of the first and second types of electronic program information.

58. (Amended) The method according to claim 57, wherein the preparing step is configured to increase each of the first and second amounts of detail as enabled by increasing a period of broadcast time during which each of the first and second types of electronic program information is described.

59. (Amended) An electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus for preparing and transmitting electronic program information toward a plurality of receiving terminals, comprising:

electronic program information preparing means for preparing a first type of electronic program information having a first amount of detail and that is adapted to be carried along with a flow of data broadcast by at least one of a plurality of channel services provided by a broadcaster, and a second type of electronic program information having a second, different, amount of detail and that is adapted to be carried along with other flows of broadcast data of at least one other channel service(s) that are not provided by said broadcaster, wherein the first and second types of electronic program information contain information that is descriptive of the same broadcast program;

electronic program information distribution means for distributing the prepared first and second types of electronic program informations into the flow of data broadcast along with said at least one broadcast channel service(s) provided by the broadcaster and the other flows of broadcast data of the other channel services, respectively; and

means for transmitting both of the flow of data broadcast via the broadcaster's channel and the other flows of broadcast data respectively, toward the receiving terminals.

60. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing the first and second amounts of detail in said first and second types of electronic program information, respectively, on the basis of detail setting information that indicates the amount of detail that is acceptable in each of the first and second electronic program information.

61. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing a correspondence between a channel service provided by each broadcaster and a flow of broadcast data, by distributing the first and second types of electronic program information into the respective flows of broadcast data on the basis of

information that revises correspondences between each broadcaster and the channel service provided by each broadcaster.

62. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the first amount of detail is higher in description of program information than the second amount of detail.

63. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing the first and second amounts of detail on the basis of detail setting information that indicates the amount of detail acceptable in the first and second types of electronic program information.

64. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing a correspondence between a channel service provided by each broadcaster and a flow of broadcast data, by distributing the first and second types of electronic program information into the respective flows of broadcast data on the basis of information that indicates a change in the correspondences between each broadcaster and the channel service provided by each broadcaster.

65. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the electronic program information preparing means is configured to increase the first and second amounts of detail, corresponding to the addition of a further detailed description of each program in the first and second types of electronic program information.

68. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 62, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means to increase the amount of detail in each of said first and second types of

program information to correspond to a longer period of time during which the first and second types of electronic program information are described, respectively.

69. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 68, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing the first and second amounts of detail on the basis of detail setting information that indicates the degree of detail in the first and second types of electronic program information.

3² 70. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 68, wherein the electronic program information preparing means further comprises means for changing a correspondence between a channel service provided by each broadcast serviced station and a flow of broadcast data, by distributing the first and second electronic program information into the respective flows of broadcast data on the basis of information that indicates correspondences between each broadcaster and the channel service provided by each broadcaster.

71. (Amended) A method of preparing and transmitting electronic program information toward a plurality of receiving terminals, comprising the steps of:
preparing both:

a first type of electronic program information having a first amount of detail in its description of program information, and adapted to be carried along with a flow of data broadcast by at least one of a plurality of channel services provided by a broadcaster, and

a second electronic program information having a second amount of detail, and adapted to be carried along with a different flow of further data broadcast by a different channel service that is not provided by the same broadcaster,

wherein the second amount of detail is different in its description of program information from the first amount of detail, and wherein the first and second types of electronic program information describe the same broadcast program;

distributing the prepared first and second types of electronic program information into the flow of data broadcast by at least one channel service provided by the broadcaster and the different flow of further data broadcast by the different channel service; and

transmitting both of the flow of broadcast data and the different flow of further broadcast data toward the receiving terminals.

72. (Amended) The method according to claim 71, wherein the first amount of detail has a greater amount of description than the second amount of detail.

73. (Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein said preparing step further comprises increasing the first and second amounts of detail correspondingly to an addition of further descriptive detail of each program to each of the first and second types of electronic program information.

74. (Amended) The method according to claim 72, wherein said preparing step further comprises increasing the amounts of detail in said first and second types of electronic program information correspondingly to descriptions of the first and second types of electronic program information that is enabled by having a longer period of broadcast time.

75. (Amended) An electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus for preparing and transmitting electronic information toward a plurality of receiving terminals, comprising:

describing means for describing information indicating a broadcast program to be transmitted, using a transmission band that encompasses a plurality of channels, into broadcast program information carried in each of the plurality of channels; and

means for transmitting the broadcast program information, channel by channel, toward the receiving terminals.

76. (Amended) An electronic program information preparing transmitting apparatus for preparing and transmitting electric program information toward a plurality of receiving terminals, comprising:

describing means for converting information indicating a broadcast program to be transmitted using a transmission band that encompasses a plurality of channels, into broadcast program information adapted to be carried in only one channel, and into reference information adapted to be carried in at least one other channel(s); and

means for transmitting the broadcast program information, channel by channel, toward the receiving terminals.

77. (Amended) An electronic program information receiving apparatus for receiving electric program information that has been transmitted, comprising:

determining means for determining whether or not the electric program information indicating a broadcast program to be transmitted through a transmission band that encompasses a plurality of channels is described in a program information carried in each of the channels to be used for the transmission of said broadcast program; and

3² means for, where the determination performed by the determination means is affirmative, displaying a program guide showing that the broadcast program is broadcast through the transmission band that encompasses the plurality of channels.

78. (Amended) An electronic program information receiving apparatus for receiving electric program information that has been transmitted, comprising:

determining means for determining whether or not:

(1): information indicating a broadcast program to be transmitted through a transmission band that encompasses a plurality of channels is described in a broadcast program information carried in only one of the channels; and

(ii): only information that makes reference to the broadcast program is described in one or more remaining channels; and

means for, if the determination performed by the determining means is affirmative, displaying a broadcast program guide showing that the broadcast program is the same as a program to be broadcast in at least one of the remaining channels.

79. (Amended) An electronic program information receiving apparatus for receiving electric program information that has been transmitted, comprising:

a first determining means for determining whether or not:

(i): information indicating a broadcast program to be transmitted through a transmission band that encompasses a plurality of channels is described in a broadcast program information carried in only one of the channels; and

(ii): only information that makes reference to the broadcast program is described in at least one remaining channel(s);

a first displaying means adapted, in cases where the determination performed by the first determining means is affirmative, to display on a broadcast program guide at least part of the information indicating the broadcast program referred by a further broadcast program to be broadcast on at least one of the remaining channel(s);

a second determining means for determining whether or not either the broadcast program or the further broadcast program has been selected on the broadcast program guide; and

a second displaying means adapted to visually display both of the broadcast program and the further broadcast program that have been selected.

3²
80. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to 47, wherein the flow of broadcast data and the other flows of broadcast data are, respectively, a transport stream to be transmitted.

81. (Amended) The method according to claim 55, wherein the transmitting step includes transmitting the flow of broadcast data and the other flows of broadcast data, respectively, in a form of transport stream.

82. (Amended) The electronic program information preparing and transmitting apparatus according to claim 59, wherein the flow of broadcast data the other flows of broadcast data are, respectively, a transport stream to be transmitted.

83. (Amended) The method according to claim 71, wherein the transmitting step includes transmitting the flow of broadcast data and the other flows of broadcast data, respectively, in a form of transport stream.